

House Resolution 1970

By: Representatives Hembree of the 67th, Burkhalter of the 50th, Keen of the 179th, Richardson of the 19th, Porter of the 143rd, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Mr. Richard R. "Dick" Pettys; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Mr. Richard R. Pettys provided 35 years of dedicated service to The Associated
3 Press and its members; and

4 WHEREAS, for 34 of those years, Mr. Pettys served as the news cooperative's correspondent
5 from Georgia's state house, where he has diligently reported and overseen coverage of the
6 news from the General Assembly, state executive offices and agencies, Georgia Supreme
7 Court, political campaigns, and other areas of public interest; and

8 WHEREAS, through his accurate and balanced reporting, Mr. Pettys has built a reputation
9 as one of the most respected journalists in the great State of Georgia, having begun his
10 service at the time Lester Maddox was Governor on through to Governor Sonny Purdue; and

11 WHEREAS, following his distinguished service on behalf of The Associated Press, he
12 applied his skills for *InsiderAdvantageGeorgia*, the political and business newsletter founded
13 first in print and later placed on the web; and

14 WHEREAS, during his tenure with Associated Press and *InsiderAdvantageGeorgia*, he has
15 been responsible for keeping politicians honest, and no one has greater depth of knowledge
16 about what goes on in the political and corporate communities in our state, a knowledge he
17 used to keep the public well informed and give public servants the ability to make better
18 policy; and

19 WHEREAS, during his impressive tenure, Mr. Pettys served as a mentor to scores of
20 journalists with The Associated Press and other members of press row; and

1 WHEREAS, the members of this body will always admire his consistently thorough
2 consideration of the issues presented to this deliberative body, and his integrity and reliability
3 rightfully earned him our honor, respect, and trust over the years; and

4 WHEREAS, he has consistently demonstrated a solid commitment to the careful study of
5 state government and, through his superior analysis and neverending quest for data, has
6 maintained a reputation as an equitable, impartial commentator whose decisions are governed
7 by the rules of honesty and fair play and whose actions are marked by unmatched dignity,
8 grace, and wisdom; and

9 WHEREAS, he has announced his retirement in 2008, and it is abundantly fitting and proper
10 that the outstanding accomplishments of this remarkable and distinguished Georgian be
11 recognized appropriately.

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
13 the members of this body commend Mr. Richard R. "Dick" Pettys for the almost four decades
14 of effective, efficient, unselfish, and dedicated service that he has rendered on behalf of
15 Georgia; congratulate him upon the grand occasion of his retirement; and extend to him their
16 utmost appreciation for his having so purely and truly defined for others the meaning of
17 accurate and balanced reporting.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
19 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. Richard R. "Dick"
20 Pettys.